12.11: Scholarly Periodicals (aka "Journals")

Characteristics that help you identify a periodical as scholarly:

- Often contain lengthy articles (five to fifty pages)

- Generally confine the subject matter to a single, very specific aspect of a subject area (e.g., music theory, European political science, film studies, language development)

- Contain articles with footnotes or cited reference pages. The cited references allow the reader to consult the same material that the author used in

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"Twitter Bodhisattva": Ai Weiwei's Media Politics

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Abstract. This article investigates artist and activist Ai Weiwei’s media politics. In 2007, Ai Weiwei imagined a digital ecosystem that would provide a “non-compromising register on events and power” and since 2007 he has embarked blogging and micro-blogging to meet such vision. We argue that his "connective activism" is a new form of political activism that is based on social networking sites (SNS) and that can be regarded as a "digital movement". We analyze the online presence of Ai Weiwei's "Twitter Bodhisattva" and compare it with other online activists’ digital movements. We discuss the efficiency and expanse of this new form of activism from two perspectives – namely, from Bodenbender’s analysis of "virtual activism" and Bell’s "virtual" – and finally assess its impact. We also aim to challenge our understanding of the social media communication strategies of Chinese activists, focusing on the practice and consumption of Chinese cyberactivism as a new political narrative.

Keywords: China, Ai Weiwei, internet, social media, communication, digital activism, activism, social media, activism

Introduction

This article investigates the media politics of Ai Weiwei to explore how this artist-activist makes his voice heard against China’s Party-state authorities via social media. It moves to the use of the media, activism and digital space all as forms of an ongoing political contestation that is increasingly taking place online. As such, we analyze his blogging and micro-blogging efforts from three vantage points – a) activist program, newspaper/practitioner and political media, b) social justice movement, and c) digital activism.
his/her research

• Are intended for an academic or scholarly audience

• Use technical or specialized vocabulary

• Publish articles written by academics, specialists or researchers in the field (as opposed to articles written by journalists reporting on or synthesizing research)

• Often publish reviews of the literature

• Often include articles with charts or tables: news photos and other types of graphics are not often used, save in the case of articles on visual subjects, such as art, design or architecture

• Are often produced under the editorial supervision of a professional association (e.g., Journal of the American Medical Association) or by a scholarly press (e.g., Elsevier, Pergamon)

• Contain little or no advertising

• Are issued less frequently than popular or trade periodicals

Again, hundreds of databases help the searcher locate articles in scholarly periodicals. A few of the most valuable include Academic Search Premier, Google Scholar, JSTOR, and Web of Science. Also, an individual scholar may provide links to the articles s/he has produced on a personal or institutional website, and the journals themselves may offer a searchable archive, although there is almost always a charge involved in getting access to a specific article from the journal’s own archive.